

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 335

Congratulating the people of Mexico on the occasion of the democratic elections held in that country.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 13, 2000

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. DODD, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Congratulating the people of Mexico on the occasion of the democratic elections held in that country.

Whereas the United States and Mexico share a border of more than 2,000 miles;

Whereas Mexico is the second largest trade partner of the United States, with a two-way trade of \$174,000,000,000;

Whereas United States companies have invested more than \$25,000,000,000 in Mexico from 1994–1999;

Whereas more than 20,000,000 people now in the United States are of Mexican descent, a fact that in and of itself

forges profound and permanent cultural ties between our 2 countries;

Whereas the well-being and security of the United States and Mexico require governments willing and able to cooperate fully to confront common threats, including organized crime, corruption, and trafficking in illicit narcotics;

Whereas the people of Mexico have struggled for decades for a true representative democracy, accountability, and the rule of law and, in recent years, they have sought and obtained significant political and electoral reforms in pursuit of those objectives;

Whereas the Federal Electoral Institute and its regional councils, now genuinely independent and representative bodies, were responsible for organizing the federal elections on July 2, 2000, in which nearly 1,000,000 citizens participated directly in conducting the balloting for a new president, a new national congress, and state or local officials in Mexico City as well as 10 states;

Whereas the July 2nd elections were observed by approximately 2,500,000 domestic monitors and 850 foreign visitors, including delegations of the United States-based International Republican Institute for International Affairs and the National Democratic Institute;

Whereas in the July 2nd elections, Vicente Fox Quesada of the Alliance for Change (consisting of the National Action Party and the Mexican Green Party) was elected President of the United Mexican States, receiving 42.5 percent of the 37,600,000 votes cast, according to preliminary results released by the Federal Electoral Institute; and

Whereas, according to the Federal Electoral Institute and domestic and international observers, the July 2nd elections were unprecedented in their degree of fairness and transparency, forming the foundation for a genuinely democratic and pluralistic government that represents the will and sovereignty of the people of Mexico: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO ON**
 3 **THE OCCASION OF THE DEMOCRATIC ELEC-**
 4 **TIONS HELD IN MEXICO.**

5 (a) CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO.—

6 The Senate, on behalf of the people of the United States,
 7 hereby—

8 (1) congratulates the people of Mexico for their
 9 long, courageous, and fruitful struggle for represent-
 10 ative democracy and the rule of law;

11 (2) congratulates Vicente Fox Quesada for his
 12 electoral triumph and extends to him genuine best
 13 wishes for great success in his formation of a new
 14 government; and

15 (3) congratulates Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de
 16 Leon, current President of the United Mexican
 17 States, for his historic commitment to ensure the
 18 peaceful and stable transition of power.

19 (b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the
 20 Senate that the United States should seek to—

1 (1) expand and intensify its cooperation with
2 the newly elected Government of Mexico to promote
3 economic development and to reduce poverty to
4 achieve an improved quality of life for citizens of
5 both countries;

6 (2) confront common threats such as the traf-
7 ficking in illicit narcotics; and

8 (3) act in solidarity to actively promote rep-
9 resentative democracy and the rule of law through-
10 out the world.

11 **SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.**

12 The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy
13 of this resolution to—

14 (1) Vicente Fox Quesada, President-elect of the
15 United Mexican States;

16 (2) Luis Felipe Bravo Mena, president of the
17 National Action Party of Mexico;

18 (3) the International Republican Institute for
19 International Affairs and the National Democratic
20 Institute; and

21 (4) the Secretary of State with the request that
22 the Secretary further transmit such copy to Ernesto
23 Zedillo Ponce de León, President of the United
24 Mexican States.

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